

# AARC OVER

*Keeping  
Austin  
Wireless...  
Since 1919*



*Now  
in our  
101st  
Year!*



# AARC

**Happy  
Holidays!**



Bulletin of the  
Austin Amateur Radio Club

ISSN 1067-0262

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# Austin Amateur Radio Club Meeting will be held ONLINE!

Continuing adherence to social distancing mandates, the AARC meeting will be held online using the Zoom app. If you do not have Zoom, you may download the free application from the Zoom website for your desktop, laptop, or tablet. It can also be loaded on your smart phone from the iPhone or Android Stores.

<https://zoom.us/Download>

Zoom will allow the group to see the PowerPoint presentation online, as well as allowing the whole group to hear the speaker. While presentations are in progress **please mute your microphone** so the whole group will not hear background noise from your location. If you would like to ask a question, you can select "*Raise Your Hand*" from the application menu and the speaker will recognize you to take your app off mute. Then return to mute after you have finished.

The *Raise Your Hand* feature will also be used for any votes necessary during the meeting. After voting, please *Lower Your Hand*. You will also have the option to only see who is speaking or a view of all participants, with the speaker outlined in green.

We are looking forward to seeing and hearing from you during our regular meeting date and time. We also would like to express our appreciation to Clear Blue Sky Digital for allowing the club to use Zoom Pro at no charge to the club.

Kerby Spruiell, AARC President

## The Austin Amateur Radio Club

Monthly Meeting

Main Presentation Topic:

***Annual Christmas Party featuring K5EJL's updated AARC history video presentation***

Time: **7 p.m. to 9 p.m.**, Central Time, **Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

**An email will be sent with meeting details as the date approaches.**

Make sure your email address is up-to-date on the [austinhams.org](http://austinhams.org) site.

**Please do not post meeting info on social media or transmit via the radio.**

**Unfortunately, QRM is likely and expected if the meeting is published publicly.**

***If you don't receive the meeting info,  
please contact an officer for the meeting link and password.***

Contact info is on the last page.

**Note 1:** You can join the audio portion by phone or using your computer's audio. If you need/want to speak, you will need a headset with microphone to prevent feedback. If you do not need/want to speak, you can simply use your computer speakers to listen.

**Note 2:** If you have not used the Zoom teleconferencing app before, you may want to visit the pages below for some hints and tips on participating in the meeting:

<https://www.wired.com/story/tips-for-using-zoom/>

<https://thewirecutter.com/blog/use-zoom-like-a-pro/>



# AMATEUR RADIO EXAM - TEST RESULTS

No exam results for ARRL VEC for the previous month.

Please visit [http://www.austinsummerfest.org/VEC/ARRL\\_1st\\_Sat\\_Exams.html](http://www.austinsummerfest.org/VEC/ARRL_1st_Sat_Exams.html) for details and list of scheduled exams.

NOTE: **All in-person exams are canceled until further notice** as the test site is not available due to Church coronavirus contagion concerns.

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

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The South Austin W5YI VE exam for the previous month was canceled due to the closure of St. Edward's University in response to COVID-19.

**All in-person exams are canceled until further notice** as the test site is not available.

The amateur radio exam sessions normally start at 2 PM on scheduled test dates in Fleck Hall, room 118 on the campus of St. Edward's University. All sessions are walk-in and the exam fee is \$14 (cash or check).

For additional information regarding our amateur radio examination sessions, please contact Craig, AC5KW at (512) 474-6443 or by e-mail to [craigmb5 /at/ gmail.com](mailto:craigmb5@atgmail.com)

Please visit [AustinHams.org](http://AustinHams.org) for current information about ham radio exam sessions returning.



# Amateur Radio News & Information

## AARC Election Results

**Congratulations** to the AARC Officers for 2021! All have been re-elected to serve another term.

## Stuart Wolfe, KF5NIX, Appointed South Texas Section Manager

ARRL Bulletin 27 ARLB027 / October 1, 2020

Stuart Wolfe, KF5NIX, has been appointed ARRL South Texas Section Manager. He succeeds Paul Gilbert, KE5ZW, of Cedar Park, who has stepped down as Section Manager to become ARRL Director of Emergency Management.

Wolfe, of Rockdale, Texas, will complete the remainder of Gilbert's term. Wolfe's appointment as Section Manager begins on October 1 and extends until September 30, 2021.

Read the complete bulletin here: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLB027/2020>

## New ARRL STX Affiliated Club Coordinator

I would like to introduce Jay W. Archibald, K5MBK as the new ARRL STX Affiliated Club Coordinator. He has worked extensively with the Williamson County Amateur Radio Club on a number of projects as well as working on the

MS-100. I wish him well in his new endeavor and know he will do a great job!

*DE Stuart Wolfe - KF5NIX / ARRL STX Section Manager*

## FCC Orders Amateur Access to 3.5 GHz Band to "Sunset"

ARRL Bulletin 28 ARLB028 / October 8, 2020

Despite vigorous and continuing opposition from ARRL and others, the FCC has ordered the "sunset" of the 3.3 - 3.5-GHz amateur radio secondary spectrum allocation. The decision allows current amateur activity on the band to continue, "grandfathering" the amateur operations subject to a later decision. The FCC proposed two deadlines for amateur operations to cease on the band. The first would apply to the 3.4 - 3.5 GHz segment, the second to 3.3 - 3.4 GHz. The FCC will establish the dates once it reviews additional comments.

Read the complete bulletin here: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLB028/2020>

## ARLB032 W1AW 2020/2021 Winter Operating Schedule

Tune in and listen to Morse code practice texts (slow and fast), as well as Digital and Voice bulletins.

Read the complete bulletin here: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLB032/2020>

## Clear Frequencies Requested for Caribbean Hurricane Emergency Traffic

ARRL Bulletin 34 ARLB034 / November 16, 2020

Stations handling emergency traffic during the response to Category 5 Hurricane Iota, just off the eastern coast of Nicaragua, are requesting clear frequencies.

Radio amateurs not involved in the emergency response are asked to avoid (plus/minus 5 KHz) the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) and WX4NHC (National Hurricane Center) frequencies of 14.325 and 7.268 MHz, as well as a Honduran emergency net operation on 7.180 MHz (net control station is HR1JFA), and a Nicaraguan emergency net operating on 7.098 MHz.

Read the complete bulletin: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLB034/2020>

## ARRL Seeks Waiver of Proposed FCC Amateur Application Fees

ARRL Bulletin 35 ARLB035 / November 19, 2020

ARRL has urged the FCC to waive its proposed \$50 amateur radio application fee. The Commission proposal was made last month in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD 20-270. The proposal already has drawn more than 3,200 individual comments overwhelmingly opposed to the plan. The fees, directed by Congress and imposed on all FCC-regulated services, are to recover the FCC's costs of handling and processing applications.

The NPRM can be found in PDF format at: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-116A1.pdf>

[FYI: Comments on the NPRM closed on November 16, 2020. -Editor]

Read the complete bulletin here: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLB035/2020>

## Neutron-1 CubeSat Scheduled for Deployment on November 5; Other Sats Pending (11/03/2020)

The 3-U Neutron-1 CubeSat is scheduled for deployment from the International Space Station (ISS) on November 5 at 10:40 UTC. For the satellite's first month and during its commissioning phase, the Neutron-1 beacon will transmit 1,200 bps BPSK telemetry every 60 seconds on 435.300 MHz. Developed by the Hawaii Space Flight Laboratory (HSFL) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM), the satellite's payload includes a VU FM amateur radio repeater during available times and according to the spacecraft's power budget. [...]

A number of other amateur radio satellites are expected to launch or be deployed in the next few months.

Read more at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/neutron-1-cubesat-scheduled-for-deployment-on-november-5-other-sats-pending>

## Damaged Giant Radio Telescope at Arecibo Observatory Deemed Beyond Repair (11/19/2020)

The damaged 305-meter radio telescope at Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico will be decommissioned due to safety concerns, the National Science Foundation (NSF) announced on November 19. The iconic dish has served as a backdrop for several science fiction movies. The Arecibo Observatory Amateur Radio Club, KP4AO, is headquartered at the research facility, and several radio amateurs are employed there.

"Following a review of engineering assessments that found damage to the Arecibo Observatory cannot be stabilized without risk to construction workers and staff at the facility, the US National Science Foundation will begin plans to decommission the 305-meter telescope, which for 57 years has served as a world-class resource for radio astronomy, planetary, solar system, and geospace research," the NSF said. [...]

Engineers have been examining the monster dish since August, when one of its support cables let go. [...]

Engineers had designed, and were ready to implement, emergency structural stabilization of the auxiliary cable system, but while arranging delivery of two replacement cables and two temporary cables, a main cable broke on the same tower on November 6.

Read more at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/damaged-giant-radio-telescope-at-arecibo-observatory-deemed-beyond-repair>

## **Dayton Hamvention Announces its 2021 Theme — "The Gathering" (11/23/2020)**

"The Gathering" will be the theme for the 2021 Dayton Hamvention®. Hamvention General Chair Rick Allnutt, WS8G, said the theme reflects what has been missing from our lives most of this year.

"We have spent the last 6 months being bound to our houses and small groups," he said. "We are very optimistic that when May arrives, we will be allowed to get together."

Read more at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/dayton-hamvention-announces-its-2021-theme-the-gathering>

## **FEMA Seeking Reserve Telecommunications Operators (11/25/2020)**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is seeking telecommunications operator reservists to assist in emergency recovery efforts on an intermittent, on-call basis. The deadline to apply is December 8, but FEMA will not take any applications beyond the first 200, which may come sooner than that.

These FEMA reservist positions seem well suited to radio amateurs. Duties include sending, receiving, and distributing HF radio messages between first responders using the phonetic alphabet, Morse code, call signs, continuous wave, and proper frequencies based on network requirements, as well as setting up, establishing, and maintaining an HF radio site in an austere environment and performing site analysis to determine an optimal location.

Read more at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/fema-seeking-reserve-telecommunications-operators>

[As of November 29, the application is still available. -Editor]

## **Universal Radio Announces Closing (11/25/2020)**

Ham Radio retailer Universal Radio, headquartered in Worthington, Ohio, is closing its store on November 30, although all existing orders will be filled, and the Universal Radio website will remain open to sell off "remaining stock, publications, and some select products." Owners Fred Osterman, N8EKU, and Barbara Osterman, KC8VWI, are retiring.

Read more at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/universal-radio-announces-closing>

## **ARRL Asks FCC to Allow 3.4-GHz Operation until Spectrum is Occupied (11/26/2020)**

In comments to the FCC, ARRL has argued that radio amateurs be allowed to continue shared operation in the 3.4 GHz band until 5G licensees who purchase the spectrum when the FCC puts it up for auction initiate incompatible operations. In its Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM) in WT Docket 19-348, the FCC had proposed to sunset the band for amateur radio in two phases, governed by when new licenses are issued rather than when the new licensees begin to use the spectrum. In the FNPRM, the FCC solicited comments on whether alternatives exist to its proposal.

"Amateur activities further the public interest and should be permitted to continue on a secondary basis unless and until a new primary licensee is ready to occupy the spectrum in a preclusive manner," ARRL told the FCC. "At a minimum, amateur operations should be permitted to continue indefinitely in the 3.3 – 3.45 GHz spectrum, where no new flexible licenses are under immediate consideration. The Commission could consider whether a registration or other mechanism similar to that found in Section 97.303(g) would facilitate avoiding interference."

Read more at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-asks-fcc-to-allow-3-4-ghz-operation-until-spectrum-is-occupied>

## ***Amateur Radio Around The World***

### **Shard Building Sends 'Thank You' In Morse Code**

Illuminated with visual effects in shades of blue and white, this year's display has been specially designed to show gratitude to all NHS staff and key workers who have worked tirelessly to keep the British public safe during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Made up of 575 LED lights and fixtures across the top 20-storeys [sic] of The Shard (800ft to 1,016ft), Shard Lights is the highest light show in Western Europe.

Read more at: <https://www.the-shard.com/shardlights/>

[See YouTube video, linked in article. Morse code begins @ ~0:46. –Editor]

### **EURAO Party - Autumn 2020: Catching Christmas Stations**

The European Radio Amateurs' Organization announces a new party on the air, this time with the motto: "Catching Christmas Stations".

Read more at: <https://www.eurao.org/en/node/1152m>

### **Special call signs in Belgium during the second lockdown period**

Due to the recent stricter COVID-19 measures, many radio amateurs will be forced to spend most of the following weeks at home again. Many are obliged to telework. Teleworking is definitely becoming the new standard for several employees. COVID-19 has accelerated teleworking for almost all companies.

At the request of the Royal Union of Belgian Radio Amateurs (UBA), the BIPT has decided to once again grant permission to apply for customised special call signs. These appropriate special call signs may be used at the home address of radio amateurs. The conditions are the same as during the first lockdown in spring.

Read more at: <http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2020/november/special-call-signs-in-belgium.htm>

### **South Pole Radio Contact Spurs Visit To The Bottom Of The World**

Forbes magazine describes how an amateur radio contact with the Amundsen-Scott Station at the South Pole spurred Jim Clash WA3JID to travel there and operate the ham radio station

Read more at: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jimclash/2020/11/23/south-pole-radio-contact-spurs-visit-to-the-bottom-of-the-world>

### **Afghanistan Operation**

Robert, S53R, who has been active from Kabul since early September 2019 and will be there for another year, has been active as T6AA and T6A during major contests.

He is there working for the World Food Program (WFP). QSL via his home callsign or LoTW.

Read more at: <http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2020/november/afghanistan-operation.htm>

### **60m in Australia**

The Radio Amateur Society of Australia (RASA) reports information from regulator ACMA that a decision on 60m in Australia is expected in December 2020

Read more at: <https://vkradioamateurs.org/acma-advise-60m-decision-expected-in-december-2020>

## More Young Radio Amateurs In India

The Bangalore Mirror newspaper reports two 13-year-olds have become the youngest female radio amateurs in India. Smrithi Hegde from Bengaluru and Prama Rao from Mysuru, two students of Class 8, were recently issued the amateur wireless station licences [sic] by the Department of Telecommunications to establish, maintain and work a wireless telegraph transmitting and receiving station.

Read more at: <https://bangaloremirror.indiatimes.com/bangalore/cover-story/meet-karnatakas-youngest-amateur-radio-operators-both-are-students-of-class-8/articleshow/79377925.cms>

## Radio Hams Help In Case Of Man Incarcerated 40 Years Without Trial

Radio amateurs from the West Bengal Radio Club helped trace the family of a man who'd been languishing in a Nepali jail without trial for the past 40 years.

Read more at: <https://www.nepalitimes.com/latest/nepali-jailed-40-years-without-trial-in-kolkata/>

## Moscow Aviation Institute Plans SSTV Event From ISS

Rodolfo Parisio, IW2BSF, reports that a Slow-Scan Television (SSTV) transmission event from the International Space Station is currently scheduled to begin on Tuesday, Dec. 1 starting at 12:30 UTC, ending at 18:25 UTC, and again on Wednesday, Dec. 2 starting at 11:50 UTC and ending at 18:25 UTC.

Read more at: <http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2020/november/moscow-aviation-institute-plans-ssstv-event-from-iss.htm>



## Christmas Celebration/Meeting

It has been a long-standing tradition to forego the December business meeting in favor of a Christmas Party. However, the current pandemic situation dictates we stray from our usual Party and have our celebration online. Members should look for the online meeting invite in your email. If you are not currently a registered member, please contact one of the officers to ask for the meeting invite.

See <https://austinhams.org/contact> for contact info.



# Silent Keys

*With respect and sadness, we mourn  
the loss of our friends and fellow hams.*



## Larry Runyan W5SBE - SK in Feb 2020

Pete and I knew Larry, but I'm not sure if the rest of you knew him.

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/statesman/obituary.aspx?pid=195628983>

I remember Larry flying Pete and I (and another ham) to Baton Rouge for the 1979 ARRL National Convention.

DE N5BB (Bill) via K5FNI (Rick)



## Donald Schliesser, K6RV, SK

Donald's wife informed me that Don passed away yesterday evening. Heroic attempts were made to revive him, but sadly his signal faded to silence. All who knew Donald know how he contributed to our hobby. He was a best friend to many, and a good friend to a multitude. Services are pending. Prayers for his wife, Janet, and family.

<https://www.beckchapels.com/obituary/donald-schliesser>

DE W9BF (Bob) via KF5PWN (Gaye)



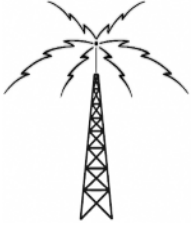
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## Moving On (Editor's Parting Words)

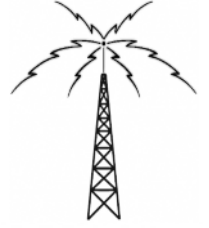
It has been my pleasure to serve as **Editor** of this *AARCOVER* newsletter and **Webmaster** for the Austin Amateur Radio Club since April 2016. I've made a few changes to the newsletter to (hopefully) be more consistent. I've occasionally thrown in some of my off-the-wall *attempts* at humor. I know... Stick to my day job. Right?! LOL. I've learned a few things and probably forgotten a few things along the way, too. But I'll always remember the good, of course. I offer a sincere **Thank You** to those who provided articles and other tidbits for the newsletter as they helped tremendously. However, with a lack of contributions, it's time for me to move on as my day job has become increasingly demanding of my time. And, as luck would have it, I will be moving out of Austin within the next few months. I found a home in Burnet County that suits me and is close to family. I will certainly be putting up an antenna (or several) to keep in touch - especially since there are no restrictions on antennas (YAY!). So listen for me on the ARES nets and watch for me at an occasional hamfest (if/when they are possible). **This is my last AARCOVER** and I believe a committee will be taking over the newsletter and website, so *please* send your articles, ideas, and updates to [editor@austinhams.org](mailto:editor@austinhams.org) and contact the officers for more information.

73 DE K5MSK (Michael)





# Over the WWaves...



## RadioShack To Be Reborn As Online-First Retailer

The good news is that as of today (19-NOV-2020) RadioShack has officially been purchased by Retail Ecommerce Ventures (REV), giving the troubled company a new lease on life. The downside, at least for folks like us, is that there are no immediate plans to return the iconic electronics retailer to its brick-and-mortar roots. As the name implies, REV specializes in online retail, having previously revamped the Internet presence of other bankrupt businesses such as Pier 1 Imports and Dressbarn. Read more at: <https://hackaday.com/2020/11/19/radioshack-to-be-reborn-as-online-first-retailer>

## Zilker Clubhouse / Former AARC – DE K5FNI (Rick)

I don't know exactly how many, but for many years the Zilker Clubhouse was the site of the annual Austin Amateur Radio Club Christmas party. I thought the members might be interested in finding out what's going on with it. <https://austin.towers.net/heres-how-austins-fixing-up-the-historic-zilker-park-clubhouse/>

## HamAlert

HamAlert is a system that makes it possible for radio amateurs to receive notifications when a certain pre-selected radio amateur station appears on the Reverse Beacon Network, the SOTAwatch, the DX cluster or on PSK Reporter. The HamAlert app notifies you in a flash of special call signs without having to constantly keep an eye on the DX Cluster. Thanks to the HamAlert app, you get the spots on your smartphone [sic] while you are busy with other things. See: <https://hamalert.org/triggers>

[I haven't tried this yet, and there's no further information on the site, but it may be useful if you're looking for a specific contest or rare DX station. –Editor]

## RF Connectors – seen on TCARES email "reflector" DE N5CID (Don)

Everything you ever wanted to know about RF Connectors.

<http://www.wa1mba.org/rfconn.htm>

[The page looks a bit archaic, but it has great info. –Editor]

## Coke Loop Antenna – DE K5FNI (Rick)

<http://www.alexloop.com/artigo36.html>

For those wanting a small loop that's tunable over a wide range.

DE K5FNI (Rick)

[Yes. Coca Cola cans are used to fabricate the trombone capacitor used with this loop. Though the cans used are based on different sized *Brazilian* Coca Cola cans, the text states that any pair of larger & smaller cans should work, i.e. Coca Cola + Red Bull, etc. –Editor]

## G0KSC Antenna modeling YouTube Channel

Justin Johnson G0KSC inventor of the LFA (Loop Fed Array) Yagi and BOLPA (Band Optimised Log Periodic Array) Log Periodic antennas amongst others, has added a new YouTube channel to help Hams become proficient in Antenna Modelling. "A long time has passed since we could build a radio as good as any top end product we can buy but this is still not the case when it comes to Antennas" says Justin. "There are three types of Hams out there in my opinion, those that will always buy antennas. Those that will always build their own and those that will do whatever is easiest."

**G0KSC - Antenna Design & anything Ham Radio** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5IBDg7XIsZU5vTHkNfokUw>



# Just For Fun...



## Word Search

Can you find all the words listed below in this puzzle? The words are taken from articles, news, events, or *anywhere* in this newsletter. Can you find them in this newsletter?

E N D W O E D B E N L U S S S  
 N Q O A I Q N R D A N P Z U A  
 G A B I D R U O R X E Z P Y M  
 I E R Z T T E E B C H E K R T  
 N L R E N N N L T M R Z K O S  
 E J J E C E E R E H O S W T I  
 E C V E G I U V E S O R T S R  
 R D M B Y M B T M K S A T I H  
 A E Y F O B E O D A M K Y H C  
 D L T M Q R C L U B H O U S E  
 Y U F K O G N I L E D O M Y V  
 Y V C D K G A M P Y H V L A M  
 B N Y R X W A P G V Q Q V K D  
 N N E P Z A V C U B E S A T N  
 E R U T C U R T S A R F N I D

ADVENTURE  
 ARECIBO  
 CHRISTMAS  
 CLUBHOUSE  
 CUBESAT

ENGINEER  
 GENERAL  
 HAMVENTION  
 HISTORY  
 INFRASTRUCTURE

MODELING  
 SPECTRUM  
 SUPERHETERODYNE  
 TROMBONE  
 WIRELESS

## Action on the Airwaves (continued from right column)

Please send SASE with your QSO information to : Vienna Wireless Society W4F PO Box 418 Vienna, VA 22183 <https://viennawireless.net/>

### 12/18/2020 | Major Edwin Howard Armstrong Memorial Special Event Operation

Dec 18-Dec 20, 0000Z-2359Z, W4A, Bluff City, TN. N9EN. 14.040 7.020 3.530. QSL. via the bureau or direct to Brad Anbro, N9EN, 1118 Walnut Grove Road, Bluff City, TN 37618.

*[Maj. Armstrong was an American electrical engineer and inventor, who developed FM (frequency modulation) radio and the superheterodyne receiver system. DOB 12/18/1890. -Editor]*

## Action on the Airwaves

Looking for a way to "get out" during COVID-19 lockdown?

This is just a *sample* of the special events stations.

Check out more [activities on the air!](#)

**NOTE: Due to COVID-19 and shelter-in-place orders around the country, some events may be canceled, postponed, or modified without notice. Check the respective links for current info.**

### 12/05/2020 | Christmas in Bethlehem

Dec 5, 1300Z-2200Z, W9WWI, Bethlehem, IN. Clark County Amateur Radio Club of Indiana. 14.240; all bands, all modes. Certificate. W9WWI, P.O.Box 201, Sellersburg, IN 47172. Celebrating A safe and healthy Christmas in Bethlehem. Operating from the school house in Bethlehem Indiana. SASE please. <https://www.clarkcountycar.org>

### 12/05/2020 | Woronoco Heights Outdoor Adventure/SCOTA

Dec 5, 1300Z-1900Z, W1M, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council--BSA. 14.290 14.060 10.115 7.190. Certificate. Tom Barker, 329 Faraway Road, Whitefield, NH 03598. All logging is done on paper and then uploaded to LoTW and eQSL. A QSL card can be had for a 4x6 SASE. W1M will operate on Brandmeister TG 3100 for demonstration purposes. Expect to see different call signs. COVID-19 may interrupt this event.

### 12/07/2020 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Dec 7, 1600Z-2130Z, W5KID, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 14.035 7.225 7.035. QSL. USS KIDD Amateur Radio Club, 305 S. River Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Operation aboard the USS KIDD (DD-661). WW II Fletcher class destroyer. <https://www.qrz.com/db/w5kid>

### 12/10/2020 | Commemoration of the Birth of PSK31

Dec 10-Dec 20, 1700Z-1700Z, K9Z, Rochester, IL. Sangamon Valley Radio Club. 14.070 7.070; all bands, all modes. QSL. J. Mitch Hopper, K9ZXO, 536 E. Mill St., Rochester, IL 62563. All conversational modes will be used - all bands. <https://www.qrz.com/db/k9z>

### 12/17/2020 | WX3MAS Special Event

Dec 17-Dec 20, 1400Z-2200Z, WX3MAS, Nazareth, PA. Christmas City Amateur Radio Club. 14.265 7.270 3.850; CW and PSK31 on 20 and 40 meters, and FT8. Certificate & QSL. WX3MAS, 14 Gracedale Ave., Greystone Building, Nazareth, PA 18064. For commemorative certificate: Send QSL and 9X12 SASE. <http://www.dlarc.org/>

### 12/18/2020 | 120th Anniversary of the First Wireless Voice Transmission

Dec 18-Dec 24, 0001Z-2359Z, W4F, Vienna, VA. Vienna Wireless Society. 14.250 7.185. QSL. Vienna Wireless Society, W4F, PO Box 418, Vienna, VA 22183. W4F will be operating on 80, 40, 20,15,10, 6, and 2 meter amateur bands on CW, and SSB, as well as FT-8 using fox/hound mode. For QSL card, *(continued in left column)*



## AARC Monthly Meeting Info

Tuesday, December 1, 2020 / 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Location: ONLINE - Email invite  
See Page 2 for more info

**Christmas Celebration**  
**Featuring K5EJL's updated**  
**AARC history video presentation**

## Upcoming Amateur Exams: 2020

ARRL VE - Please visit  
[http://www.austinsummerfest.org/VEC/ARRL\\_1st\\_Sat\\_Exams.html](http://www.austinsummerfest.org/VEC/ARRL_1st_Sat_Exams.html)  
for details and list of scheduled exams.

**All exams CANCELED until further notice**

For more info, contact:  
Joe Makeever, W5HS (512-345-0800)

W5YI VEC - **All exams CANCELED until further notice**  
2 p.m. In Room 118, Fleck Hall,  
St. Edwards University. \$14 fee.

For more info, contact:  
Craig, AC5KW [at] ARRL.net

## 2020 - Calendar of Events

### Nov 5-Jan 21 – K3RA General Class course on Zoom

Roland Anders K3RA is starting a General Class course on Zoom Thursday, November 5, and running for 9 sessions. Due to holiday breaks, the course ends Jan 21. Sessions will start at 6:30 EST, and run 3 hours. No charge, of course. Classes sponsored by the National Electronics Museum - K3NEM:

<http://www.k3nem.org/node/399> (General for 2020)

<http://www.k3nem.org/node/10> (Tech, General, Extra info)

Those wishing to sign up should email:  
roland.anders@comcast.net .

**Decker Lake Challenge** has been officially **canceled due to COVID-19 threat**

## 2021 EVENTS

### Jan -- Radio Fiesta in Schertz Texas

Officially canceled for January 2021, according to the San Antonio Radio club's website.

<https://w5sc.org/radio-fiesta/>

### Feb ?? 2021 – (will update when the date is set) 30th Annual Lou Withrow Austin/South Central Texas SkyWarn

9 am to 4 pm - BASIC & ADVANCED TRAINING

(by NWS Austin/San Antonio)

ACC Eastview Campus, Building 8500

3400 Webberville Road, Austin, TX 78702

Hosted by Troy Kimmel KE5BCK

<http://www.la.utexas.edu/users/kimmel/skywarn.html>

Any questions- tkimmel@austin.utexas.edu

### Mar 5-6 2021 – Greater Houston Hamfest (Rosenberg)

Hosting the ARRL Texas State Convention  
2021 Greater Houston HamFest will be our 20th year  
Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4200 Highway 36, Rosenberg TX-  
Friday, March 05, 2021 12 pm to 8 pm - Vendor Setup Only  
Saturday, March 06, 2021 Setup - 6AM - 8AM  
Main event - 8AM - 2PM  
Talk In 146.94 / Tone 167.9  
<http://www.houstonhamfest.org/>  
HamFest Hotline 401-584-GHHF (4443)  
713-502-5896 and/or 713-569-8799

### Mar 13-14 2021 – QSO Today's Virtual Ham Expo!!

Next in the series of fine on-line conventions  
First one was August 2020  
<https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>

### May 1-2 2021 – MS-150 Bike Ride

Sign-up information will be available on  
<http://texasms150hams.org/>

### Oct 16 2021 – South Texas Hamfest & Electronics Expo

"TEXAS FASTEST GROWING HAMFEST"  
San Patricio County Fairgrounds - Event Center.  
Located at 219 W. 5th Street, Sinton, Texas.  
Doors open to the Public 8:00AM - 3:00PM  
Talk-In Frequency- 147.08(+)-107.2PL  
southtexashamfest@gmail.com or call 361-947-5665  
<http://southtexashamfest.org/> for details

More info & events listed in the [SwapNet Newsletter!](#)  
Visit <http://austinhams.org/swapnet>

## Upcoming Meetings...

Dec	Jan	Frequency	Austin Meetings/Happenings	Time	Address
<del>1</del>	<del>5</del>	<del>1st Tuesday</del>	<del>AARC Meeting @ ONLINE</del>	<del>7:00pm</del>	<del>ONLINE - See page 2</del>
<del>--</del>	<del>26</del>	<del>4th Tuesday</del>	<del>Travis County ARES @ ON-AIR</del>	<del>7:00pm</del>	<del>ONLINE - See groups.io for info</del>
<del>15</del>	<del>19</del>	<del>3rd Tuesday</del>	<del>CTDXCC @ Baby Acapulco</del>	<del>6:30pm</del>	<del>9505-B Stonelake Blvd</del>

\* Note: Meetings may occasionally change date or location due to holidays or other events. Check here or their respective websites for updates.

If your club is listed here and has incorrect time or dates, please let us know!

Email: editor [at] austinhams.org

Please include complete details of what needs to be updated.

**DUE TO COVID-19 (coronavirus), most in-person meetings are CANCELED. Some are being held online/on-air. Check with their respective leaders for info.**

## Periodic Events - In the Area and On-the-Air

Sun	7:00 p.m.	Travis Co. ARES net	147.360 MHz – (131.8)
Sun	1900-Wed 2359	Travis Co. ARES WinLink Wednesday	145.730 MHz
Sun	8:00 p.m.	Williamson Co. ARES net	146.640 MHz – (162.2)
Sun	9:00 p.m.	AARC SwapNet	146.940 MHz – (107.2)
Mon	7:30 p.m.	STX ARES Net	3.873 MHz
Tue	7:30 p.m.	Hays ARES net	147.100 MHz +
Tue	8:00 p.m.	Bastrop ARES Net	443.750 MHz + (114.8)
Wed	10:00 a.m.	Ham Social Brunch, Jim's	146.940 MHz – (107.2)
Thu	9:00 p.m.	2m SSB Net	144.250 MHz (USB)
Thu	11:00 a.m.	Lunch, Pokey Joe's 183&Great Hills	444.100 MHz+
Thu	11:45 a.m.	Lunch, Whataburger, <b>ONLINE</b>	146.940 – (107.2)
		Contact Gene at <b>wa5ac</b> [[at]] arrl.net for instructions to receive invitation to meetings	
Fri	8:00 p.m.	6m SSB Net	50.230 (texasvhf.org/)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	11:00 a.m.	AQRP - No meetings scheduled. Contact K5BCQ for information	
Sat	8:00 a.m.	Hambuds Breakfast	146.840 – (103.5)
		Veterans Memorial Park group pavilion, 2525 W New Hope Drive, Cedar Park <b>and/or</b> Gloria's Cafe & Bakery, 1201 Lakeline Blvd Suite 900, Cedar Park	
Sat	7:00-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast @ Waterloo Ice House	444.100 MHz +
Sat	9:00 a.m.	Chapter 67 QCWA QSO Net.	3.920 MHz LSB
Sat	7:00 p.m.	AARC Elmer Net	146.940 MHz – (107.2)
Daily	6:30 p.m.	Central Texas Traffic Net	147.140 MHz +

### IMAGE CREDITS

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# Minutes of the Regular Membership Meeting of November 3, 2020

## The Austin Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

Mark Jenkins, W5MPJ, Treasurer, hosts the Zoom meetings  
Kerby Spruiell, KG5DLD, President, started the meeting at 7 pm with a slide presentation  
Lewis Thompson, W5IFQ, Vice President; Joan Cox, KD4SRD, Secretary

Applied Research Labs: not sure when we can meet in person at this location. Currently no groups over 20 people and must do temperature checks. Check back after the start of New Year. Regardless on when or where we do meet in person, Zoom will continue so more people can participate.

### New Members and Visitors:

Craig Levy	no call yet	Kerman Hornburg	KI5KYL
Tim Groman	KD5IKG	Jay Guettler	KI7UPY
Dave Hollifelder	no call	Jared	no call
Sameer Bibikar	KI5EIF	Kirsten Wunrow	KI5KYE
Miguel Martinez	KI5LQO - Just got General license 2 weeks ago		
Martin Bomer	W5MAN- Licensed in Smithville		

**Ham of the Month for November:** Patrick Rogersn, W5DVG

### Old Business:

#### Treasurer, Mark Jenkins

Four new members in October. Approximately \$11,200 in bank accounts. Remember to update your email address and pay your dues. A number of emails bounced so please make sure your email is current. Your \$20-a-year dues are used to maintain the emergency trailer, maintain & repair Repeaters, Field Day and many other training and activities.

### Special Interest Groups:

#### ARES - Michael Marks KG5RXG

Thanks to all who participated in annual SET Critical Infrastructure Drill. We had 120 man hours spent last month for ARES in all activities. Special thanks to Patrick W5DVG, Colin KG5EXR and Phil AA5EX for being team leads. And all Stations that participated. We simulated critical infrastructure, drill from home. We used mainly WinLink to pass messages. Also used M110A to send messages to Army Mars and we moved traffic for the American Red Cross. ARES net is Sunday at 7 pm on 147.360 MHz with tone 131.8 Hz. You do not have to be a Member to check in. Everyone is welcome. Website is [TCARES.org](http://TCARES.org). If you still have questions contact Michael at KG5RXG [\[\[at\]\] arrl.net](mailto:KG5RXG@arrl.net)

#### CTECC update – Ed Cox KE3D

W5TQ-10 and W5TQ-12 are back in operation. We have the possibility of volunteers going back over there to work as soon as this current period of unrest goes away. All equipment at CTECC is working.

#### Technical Committee – Roy Walker – no report

**New Business:** Election of Officers 2021. Current officers:

Kerby Spruiell, KG5DLD	President
Lewis Thompson, W5IFQ	Vice President
Mark Jenkins, W5MPJ	Treasurer
Joan Cox, KD4SRD	Secretary

Nominations are open for volunteers. No nominations received at this time. Current board is elected for 2021.

### Programs:

#### Ham Radio 101 by Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW

Very excellent overview of ham radio program of Amateur Radio tonight.

#### Solar Weather by Lewis Thompson, W5IFQ

Another excellent program on Solar Weather. (Posted on [AARC website](http://AARC website). Click **Technical** on the top menu for a list of presentations. -Editor)

Submitted by Joan Cox KD4SRD, Secretary



**Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** / PO BOX 4739 / AUSTIN TX 78765-4739 / Web site: <http://www.austinhams.org>

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (AARC) has annual membership dues of \$20.00 per person or \$30.00 per family.

### **CLUB REPEATERS**

*AARC maintains the following repeaters:*

<b>Frequency (MHz)</b>	<b>PL Tone (Hz)</b>	<b>Use / Notes</b>
146.780 (-)	-	2m D-STAR repeater [W5KA C]
146.880 (-)	107.2	Analog/Digital Fusion (Yaesu)
146.940 (-)	107.2	Most popular, TCARES WxNet, SwapNet
224.800	-	-
440.650 (+5)	-	70cm D-STAR repeater [W5KA B]
444.100	-	-
444.200	107.2	-
1293.100 (-20)	-	23cm D-STAR repeater [W5KA A]
1248.200	-	23cm D-STAR DD (data, simplex/Reversible) [W5KA A]

*Persons using the repeaters are encouraged to join the club to help support these valuable resources.*

Note: **No** AARC repeater has **auto-patch** capability any longer.

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**The Austin Amateur Radio Club offers annual scholarships to licensees living in Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Hays, Blanco, Caldwell, and Burnet counties.** Please see <http://austinhams.org/scholarships> for more information.

### **OFFICERS**

President	Kerby Spruiell	KG5DLD	president [at] austinhams.org
Vice President	Lew Thompson	W5IFQ	vice-president [at] austinhams.org
Treasurer	Mark Jenkins	W5MPJ	treasurer [at] austinhams.org
Secretary	Joan Cox	KD4SRD	secretary [at] austinhams.org

### **Other Contacts**

Technical (Repeater Contact)	Roy Walker	WA5YZD	wa5yzd [at] arrl.net
ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Michael Marks	KG5RXG	kg5rxg [at] arrl.net
TCARES PIO	Jimmy Earl	WB5MET	pio [at] austinhams.org
Editor (AARCOVER, website)	<i>committee</i>	-	editor [at] austinhams.org

\* Replace [at] with @ in email addresses.

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Members and other readers are encouraged to submit original material for publication. Contact the Editor, if mailed submissions are required. Email and/or electronic files are encouraged! Submissions may be edited for publication (for content and/or space). **Deadline is usually the 25th of each month**, but late articles may be considered for future publication. Material may be used in a later issue. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint AARCOVER articles, provided you credit the original author and the *AARCOVER*. If material from the AARCOVER is included in another publication, a courtesy copy to the Editor is appreciated.

### **AARC Members:**

**For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN**  
**Contact: Mark Jenkins, W5MPJ / treasurer [at] austinhams.org**  
**Mark handles all changes for membership information.**

